It's Sunday morning, it's 9:45 and you are listening to WUJC , 88.7 FM and that can mean only one thing. It's time once again for the English language portion of the Lithuanian Voice Radio Program. Good morning on this the 15th day of January 1995. A special welcome to the Knights of Lithuania and their families.

Today we pause and remember the events of January 13th, 1991, when Soviet army troops killed 14 Lithuanians in Vilnius during a struggle for independence which was to become the beginning of the end for the Soviet Union. It is ironic then, that 4 years later, Russian troops are again involved in a bloody attempt to keep another republic - Chechnya from realizing independence.

It seems fitting then that I read from a letter sent to U.S. president Bill Clinton from the Lithuanian Freedom Fighters Forest Brothers:

In last Sunday's Washington Post, former national security advisor Zbignew Brezinski joined those who have criticized the Clinton administration's position on the war being waged in Chechnya. Brezinski makes the point that historically, even when America was unable or unwilling to become directly involved in a struggle against oppression, America has always given moral support by speaking out unequivocally in the name of justice. While the Clinton administration has raised the spectre of the American civil war as a valid comparision to the present situation in Chechnya, Brezinski counters that a more fitting analogy would be that of America offering Puerto Rico the chance to vote on statehood, independence or commonwealth earlier in this century. In closing Mr. Brezinski urges the U.S. to join Sweden, Germany and Ukraine in condemning Russia for its bold violation of human rights in Chechnya.

→ SAULIUS ANUŽIS TAPE

As a service to our English speaking listeners, we present this summary of the week's news stories from Lithuania as well as items of local interest, read in English. Our news comes to us courtesy of the Open Media Research Institute by way of the Internet. Email services are graciously provided by John Carroll University Computer Network Services.